



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Hirofumi Akagi

Examiner: Bao Q. Vu

Serial No.: 10/568,772

Group Art Unit: 2838

Filed: February 21, 2006

Title: POWER CONVERTER, MOTOR DRIVE, BTB SYSTEM AND SYSTEM LINKING  
INVERTER SYSTEM

**REPLY**

Mail Stop  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is responsive to the Office action dated May 9, 2007.

The examiner is referred to the accompanying petition which justifies the withdrawal of the finality of the last office action, should the examiner not allow this application in view of the following clearly distinguishing comments.

The examiner appears to concede that the previously cited Berth reference does not suggest series connections as recited in the claims of this application. It is now alleged that the newly cited Ivner reference provide such a suggestion. It is respectfully submitted that based on the clear figures of Ivner and its specification, there is no suggestion whatsoever to make any series connections as required in the independent claims 1/6/7 and claim 3.

Claims 1/6/7 recite that the AC nodes of first AC/DC converters in the plurality of converter cells are connected in series. The same is true of the AC nodes of fourth DC/AC